

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 18702 012121Z

60

ACTION EUR-25

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R 012026Z AUG 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1313

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UNCLAS PARIS 18702

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION ASSEMBLY INVITES
AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVERS TO DECEMBER
PARIS SESSION

FOR EUR/RPM: JOHN S. DAVISON

1. FOLLOWING ESTABLISHED PRACTICE, THE WEU ASSEMBLY HAS INVITED CONGRESS TO SEND OBSERVERS TO DECEMBER 3-6 ASSEMBLY SESSION IN PARIS. WE HAVE POUCHED TO EUR/RPM LETTERS FROM THE WEU ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT EDMOND NESSLER TO SPEAKER CARL ALBER AND VICE PRESIDENT FORD (AS PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE), INVITING THEM TO SEND PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVERS, TOGETHER WITH DRAFT AGENDAS OF THE UPCOMING SESSION.

2. WE ENDORSE THE IDEA OF A CONTINUED AMERICAN OBSERVER STATUS AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL WEU ASSEMBLY SESSIONS. ALTHOUGH THE ASSEMBLY ITSELF IS A RELATIVELY IMPOTENT BODY, ATTENDANCE BY LEADING EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS AND OCCASIONAL APPEARANCES BY MINISTERS AND OTHER HIGH-RANKING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PRESENT A USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR CONTACT-MAKING AND PULSE-TAKING. CONGRESSMAN DON RIEGLE, OFFICIAL AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVER AT LAST JUNE'S ASSEMBLY SESSION, DELIVERED A WELL-RECEIVED SPEECH ON THE ASSEMBLY FLOOR AND CONFERRED WITH A NUMBER OF HIGH FRENCH OFFICIALS, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC. INCREASED CONTACTS BETWEEN

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AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN AND PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE SEVEN-

NATION WEU CAN ONLY BE BENEFICIAL.
STONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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